

REMARKS

Claims 10-26 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 10, 12, 14, 15, 17, 19, 24 and 25 are amended.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges that the Office Action indicates that claims 17 and 19 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. By this Amendment, claims 17 and 19 are amended to be in independent form. Thus, at least claims 17 and 19 are in condition for allowance.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 since the amendments: (a) place the application in condition for allowance (for the reasons discussed herein); (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration (since the amendments amplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution); (c) do not present any additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims; and (d) place the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. The amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented because they are made in response to arguments raised in the final rejection. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

Reconsideration based on the following remarks is respectfully requested.

I. **The Claims Define Patentable Subject Matter**

The Office Action rejects claims 15 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Kusada (U.S. Patent No. 5,192,945); and claims 10-14, 16 and 20-26 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Maekawa (U.S. Patent No. 6,256,024) in view of Kusada. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Kusada does not disclose or suggest a driving circuit including, inter alia, a sampling circuit that samples a first analog signal supplied through one sampling switch and holds the first analog signal to be inputted in one horizontal scanning period, as recited in claim 15.

Further, Maekawa, alone or in combination with Kusada, does not disclose or suggest the driving circuit of claim 10, the electro-optical device of claim 12, and the electro-optical device of claim 14 including, inter alia, N number of A/D converters, each of the N A/D converters converting a first analog signal that is supplied through one respective sampling switch of the N sampling switches into a digital signal. Maekawa, alone or in combination with Kusada, also does not disclose or suggest the driving circuit of claim 24 and the electro-optical device of claim 25 including, inter alia, an A/D conversion circuit that converts a first analog signal supplied through one sampling switch into a digital signal.

Instead, Maekawa, for example, discloses three switches disposed for one DAC.

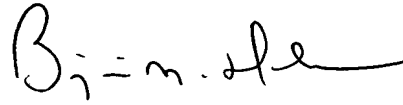
It is difficult for many sampling switches of a driving circuit of a display device of which pixels are arranged in a narrow pitch to occupy enough area, or design rules must be strict in order to combine such a driving circuit with a display device of which pixels are arranged in a narrow pitch. A rate of a data signal for transmitting through a sampling switch sometimes depends on a driving ability of a sampling signal in addition to signal levels of the data signal. In such a case, a high driving ability of a sampling signal is required for controlling many sampling switches in order to keep the transmitting rate of data signal constant throughout a region of the signal levels.

In contrast to the applied references, the driving circuit of the present invention has only one sampling switch for one A/D converter. Such a driving circuit is very suitable for a display device of which pixels are arranged in a narrow pitch in addition to a display device of which pixels are arranged in a normal pitch. A high driving ability of a sampling signal is not required for controlling sampling switches of such a driving circuit.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 10-26 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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